

I. Project Title: Evaluation of the Yampa Humpback Chub Population.

II. Principal Investigators:

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III. Project Summary:

The recovery goals for humpback chub require no “net loss” in the size of existing humpback chub populations, and a monitoring program to measure the status of these populations. The Yampa River population of humpback chub is one of the smallest populations of existing humpback chub. The recommendation from the recent RIP population monitoring workshop was that abundance estimates were very important relative to monitoring progress toward recovery. Another issue raised by the recovery goals, is what is the distribution of the ‘Yampa’ population. The recovery goals state that what is now referred to as the Yampa population also include fish that may be found in Lodore, Whirlpool, and Split Mountain canyons. The recent discovery of age-0 and age-1 humpback chub (Chris Kitcheyan, USFWS, Daryl Snyder, CSU, Personal Communication) in Island Park give support to the presence of humpback chub in at least Whirlpool Canyon, and historical records have documented captures of humpback chub in both Split Mountain and Lodore canyons. This project is the first attempt to sample the distribution of humpback chub in all the suspected locations occupied by humpback chub in a given year and will provide the baseline distributional information for these sites for future monitoring efforts.

IV. Study Schedule: 2003 to 2005

V. Relationship to RIPRAP:

Green River Action Plan: Yampa and Little Snake Rivers: V.A. Conduct population estimate for humpback chub.

VI. Accomplishments of FY 2005 Tasks and Deliverables, Discussion of Initial Findings and Shortcomings:

Sampling for this project was completed in the fall of 2004. Final data analysis and report writing efforts are underway.

VII. Recommendation:

1. Complete Final Report

VIII. Project Status:

The project is ongoing and subject to review prior to continuation.

IX. FY 05 Budget Status:

- A. Funds provided: \$30,000
- B. Funds expended: \$30,000
- C. Difference: -0-
- D. Percent of the FY 2005 work completed: 100
- E. Recovery Program funds spent for publication charges: -0-

X. Status of Data Submission:

Data will be sent to the database manager upon completion of the project in 2005. Data are currently being entered in Microsoft™ Excel spreadsheets.

XI.	Signed: <u>Sam Finney</u>	<u>November 8, 2005</u>
	Principal Investigator	Date